

What is claimed is:

- 1     1.     A system for enrolling patients in a medical study, comprising:
  - 2             a database component operative to maintain a hospital database component
  - 3             and its plurality of hospital databases and their corresponding plurality of
  - 4             patients and medical records, and a clinical studies database component and their
  - 5             corresponding plurality of medical studies;
  - 6             a communications component to alert said hospitals to said medical studies
  - 7             and receive changes to said database components; and
  - 8             a processor programmed to:
    - 9                 update said database components;
    - 10                periodically match compatible hospital patients and medical studies; and
    - 11                generate reports to matched medical practices in said medical studies.
- 1     2.     The system according to claim 1, further comprising:
  - 2             said database component operative to maintain a medical practice database
  - 3             component identifying patients associated with each said medical practice in
  - 4             said medical practice database component;
  - 5             said processor programmed to:
    - 6                 update said patient database component with data supplied by said
    - 7                 medical practice or said hospital database component; and
    - 8                 generate reports to said matched medical practices to include a listing
    - 9                 of prospective patients.
- 1     3.     The system according to claim 1, further comprising;
  - 2             a searching component for searching said clinical studies database; wherein
  - 3             said communications component is adaptable to receive queries from and query
  - 4             to said medical practices and hospitals via said searching components.
- 1     4.     The system according to claim 2, further comprising:
  - 2             said database component operative to maintain a fee database component
  - 3             identifying fees associated with procedures performed by medical specialties;

4           said processor programmed to calculate a total fee to be paid to each said  
5           medical practice and each said hospital participating in each said medical study  
6           utilizing said fee database component.

1       5.       The system according to claim 4, further comprising:

2           said fee database component operative to maintain a doctor's fee database  
3           component identifying fees associated with doctor's procedures as part of said  
4           medical studies and an ancillary fee database component identifying fees  
5           associated with miscellaneous charges associated with said medical studies; said  
6           processor programmed to calculate said total fee from said doctor's fee database  
7           component and said ancillary fee database component.

1       6.       The system according to claim 5, wherein said processor is programmed to  
2           generate a billing statement based upon said total fee and a number of patients  
3           actually enrolled in one of said plurality of medical studies.

1       7.       The system according to claim 2, wherein said processor is programmed to  
2           generate a metric of completed components of the medical study

1       8.       A computerized method for matching patients to clinical medical studies,  
2           comprising:

3           identifying a hospital;

4           identifying at least one clinical study;

5           maintaining a database identifying each said hospital and each said clinical  
6           study; and

7           comparing said hospital and said clinical studies and matching one to the  
8           other.

1       9.       The method according to claim 8, further comprising:

2           maintaining said database to include a plurality of patient profiles associated  
3           with each said hospital; and notifying said hospital of said patient profiles that  
4           match the requirements of said clinical studies.

1     10.     The method according to claim 9, further comprising:  
2             confirming participation of a patient matched in said notifying step in one  
3             of said clinical studies.

1     11.     The method according to claim 10, further comprising:  
2             maintaining on said database costs incurred by each said medical practice in  
3             performing procedures specified by said clinical study; and  
4             calculating a cost for performing said clinical study.

1     12.     The method according to claim 11, further comprising:  
2             generating and sending a billing statement to an entity responsible for  
3             initiating said clinical study.

1     13.     The method according to claim 10, further comprising:  
2             maintaining on said database doctor costs and ancillary costs incurred by  
3             said hospital in performing procedures specified by said clinical studies;  
4             calculating a cost for coordinating and performing said clinical studies;  
5             generating and sending a billing statement to entities responsible for  
6             initiating said clinical studies; and  
7             determining a percentage of costs attributable to a coordinator and to said  
8             hospitals performing said clinical studies.

1     14.     The method according to claim 9, further comprising:  
2             maintaining on said database costs for performing procedures typically  
3             specified by said clinical studies;  
4             inputting to said database procedures required by said clinical studies; and  
5             estimating a cost for implementing said clinical studies.

1     15.     The method according to claim 8, further comprising:  
2             posting said at least one clinical study on a network accessible computer for  
3             review by prospective medical practices and prospective hospitals; and

4                   communicating interest by said prospective hospitals and said prospective  
5                   patients to a coordinator.

1       16.       The method according to claim 8, further comprising:  
2                   searching on a network accessible by prospective hospitals; and  
3                   communicating interest by said prospective medical practices to a  
4                   coordinator.

1       17.       The method according to claim 9, further comprising:  
2                   generating a time deadline for performing procedures typically specified by  
3                   said clinical studies;  
4                   inputting a completion date for said procedure; and  
5                   generating a metric report comparing said completion dates with said time  
6                   deadlines.